

July 2002 Volume 6.2



SHOT TALK



The First Lady of Texas Visits San Antonio



Mrs. Anita Perry, First Lady of Texas was in San Antonio on April, 17, 2002

promoting the importance of childhood immunizations, and lending her and Governor Rick Perry's support to the National Infant Immunization Week activities in San The Good Samaritan Antonio. Center hosted this event, which was jointly sponsored by the Governor's Commission on Women. University of Texas Health Science Center (UTHSC) School of Nursing, the Texas Department of Health, and the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District.

With the local media, UTHSC, and state and local health officials in attendance, Mrs. Perry and Texas Board of Health Member Raymond Hannigan spoke passionately about importance of raising immunization rates in Texas. The Immunization Survey National conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has rated Texas 50th in having it's children immunized with the basic series of vaccines. Mrs. Perry stated this ranking must change and challenged San Antonio and Texas to be active partners in improving the immunization rates for all Texas children.



Spurs & Spurs Foundation Partner with SAMHD

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's (SAMHD) Infant Action Plan (IAP) Program is designed to increase community's awareness of the need to vaccinate children at an early age and promote the safety and efficacy of all vaccines. To help with this effort, the SAMHD Immunization Division developed a season long partnership with the Midwest Division Champion San Antonio Spurs and Spurs Foundation sponsors to raise funds to support the promotion of immunizations in San Antonio. At a recent playoff game, the Spurs and Harry and Patti Siskind, Spurs Foundation Sponsors. presented Mark Ritter, Immunization Program Manager and Tom Finke, CDC Public Health Advisor with a check for \$10,000 to support immunization efforts in San Antonio. We would like to thank the Spurs and Body Solutions for this support and look forward to the continuation of this partnership in the future.



Back to School 2002

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District would like to ensure that all children are fully vaccinated to comply with the "Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Texas Children" before the start of the 2002-2003 school year. immunization requirements for all students entering, attending, enrolled in Texas public, private and schools. child-care parochial facilities, and institutions of higher learning, state that all required immunizations should be completed by the time of enrollment in school. Experience has shown that a number of children entering schools may not be properly immunized and can be turned away by school officials until compliance is shown.

The goal of the 2002 Back-to-School immunization drive is to raise awareness about the importance of immunizations and encourage members of our community to protect their children from deadly vaccine preventable diseases. Do your part by educating your patients and immunizing them appropriately and on time.

To assist parents and students comply with the state regulations for Texas schools, the SAMHD will continue to provide immunizations at designated SAMHD Clinics. The SAMHD in collaboration with local sponsors will offer the following

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Back-to-School immunization clinics throughout the city.

2002 Back to School Immunization Campaign



August 3, 2002 10:00am-4:00pm Southpark Mall Sponsored by KTSA/KTFM

August 10, 2002 10:00am-4:00pm McCreless Mall Sponsored by KABB Fox29/WB35

August 10, 2002 8:00am-1:00pm La Villita Assembly Hall Sponsored by KVDA TV-Telemundo 60

For more information on these special back to school immunization clinics call 207-8750.

TD Deferral for 2002-2003

Due to the nationwide shortage of tetanus and diphtheria (TD) toxoids experienced earlier this year, the Texas Department of Health (TDH) is extending the deferral of the booster dose of TD vaccine for adolescents 11-14 years of age through the 2002-2003 school year. Although there have been supply problems with other vaccines such as MMR, varicella, and DTaP, the requirements for these vaccines have not changed and are not These interruptions in deferred. supply are unfortunate, but should be temporary.

Hep A Requirement for 2003-2004

Effective August 1, 2003, children born on or after September 2, 1992, attending school or childcare facilities in Bexar, Grayson, Moore, Nueces, Potter, Randall, and Terry counties, will be required to have two doses of hepatitis A vaccine administered on or after their second birthday.

Vaccine Shortages Continue

The nationwide shortages and subsequent delays in the shipment of certain vaccines are likely to continue through the summer, and for some vaccines, into early 2003. At present, the most critical shortages are with the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7- Prevnar®, Wyeth Vaccines) and Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoid and Acellular Pertussis vaccine (DTaP. Aventis-Pasteur and GlaxoSmithKline). Currently, the SAMHD Vaccine Depot is out of Prevnar vaccine and our supply of DTaP has been reduced to less than one months supply. Likewise, many of our VFC providers are currently out of Prevnar. The prognosis for receiving additional shipments of these vaccines is unknown. As a result, the SAMHD Immunization Division has again issued temporary guidelines to its health department clinics for the administration of Prevnar in order to more effectively utilize existing inventories. These guidelines are consistent with the current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP) recommendations.

Prevnar

The first concern is to protect the youngest children, those under 12 months of age. For infants less than 6 months of age administer two doses of Prevnar (PCV) at twomonths apart, defer dose 3 & 4. For infants who start PCV at 7-11 months of age administer 2 doses, two months apart, defer dose 3. For infants who start PCV at 12-23 months of age administer one dose of PCV. For high-risk children thru 60 months of age administer four doses of PCV as the ACIP recommends. For healthy children 24+ months of age defer PCV at this time.

DTaP

During the past months, the DTaP supply shortage supported administering DTaP only as a 4 dose schedule. With the introduction of

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DAPTACEL DTaP vaccine, the nation anticipates the return to the 5 dose DTaP schedule very soon. Although the CDC has announced that the DTaP supplies are returning to normal, the SAMHD vaccine depot is not yet up to full capacity to return to regular DTaP shipments. We anticipate that we should have adequate inventories by the end of this summer.

The following website from CDC has information about the vaccine shortages. www.cdc.gov/nip/news/shortages/default.htm

Tetanus/Diphtheria (Td) Toxoids Supply Improves

On June 13, 2002, the CDC informed its Projects (including SAMHD) that the Td supply should now be sufficient to return to the routine schedule as recommended by the ACIP/AAP. Although the Td supply is now satisfactory to reinstitute the Td booster doses to meet TDH school requirements, this news did not come in time to notify the public and alter the current Td booster deferment for the 2002-2003 School Year. If your practice has Td vaccine, we encourage you to go ahead and administer the Td booster to those patients that need it so they will not have to be recalled later.

Td vaccine can be purchased directly from:

- 1. Aventis Pasteur (Av P) -- For order placement or inquiries, please contact Av P at (800) 822-2463.
- 2. General Injectables and Vaccines (GIV)--This product is manufactured by Massachusetts Biologic Laboratories. For order placement or inquiries, please contact GIV at (800) 270-2273.

City Holidays

Independence Day July 4, 2002 Labor Day September 2, 2002

Mayor Proclaims Infant Immunization Week



2002 On April 11. representatives from the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's Immunization Division met with Mayor Pro Tem Antoniette (Toni) Moorhouse to proclaim April 14th – April 20th as San Antonio Infant Week Immunization (SAIIW). Councilwoman Moorhouse quick to emphasized the importance of parents recognizing the need to properly immunize their children beginning at birth and continuing at 2, 4, 6 and 12 months and again at school entry. She also stated that the City of San Antonio needs to continue to expand immunization outreach services to provide age appropriate immunizations for all children. Councilwoman Moorhouse also represented the Mayor at the SAMHD's Immunization Divisions 2002 National Infant Immunization Week Celebration.

Thanks for Participating

Special thanks go out to the VFC providers that took the time to complete a recent Vaccine Supply Survey that was faxed from the VFC Program. To date, 75 surveys have been received and the responses are being compiled to develop a community wide vaccine availability report for Dr. Guerra, Director of Health, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District. This report will be used to determine future vaccine needs recommendations. Thanks again for your input during these times of "vaccine shortages".



CDC Brings Smallpox Forum to San Antonio

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisorv Committee Immunization Practices (ACIP), is reviewing and updating recommendations on the use of smallpox (vaccinia) vaccine that were made back in June, 2001. On June 11. San Antonio hosted one of only four one-day community forums on smallpox vaccination issues held throughout the country. Dr. Fernando Guerra, an active member of the ACIP Smallpox Working Group, chaired this meeting. Other guest presenters included Dr. Hal Margolis, Senior Advisor to the Director for Smallpox Planning and Response, CDC, and Dr. Vincent Fulginiti, Professor Emeritus, from the University of Arizona Medical Center. meeting provided an overview of several smallpox vaccination issues that are being considered for revision by the ACIP. Some of these issues included the recommendations for the use of the smallpox vaccine in pre-attack settings as well as the emergency use of the vaccine following an attack. On June 20, the ACIP presented its draft recommendations for consideration to CDC and the Department of Health and Human Services. For an overview of the recommendations go to www.cdc.gov/nip/smallpox/supprecs.htm.

DAPTACELTM Licensed

On May 15, 2002, Aventis Pasteur announced that it received U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) licensure to market DAPTACELTM. Diphtheria Tetanus Toxoids and Acellular Pertussis vaccine adsorbed (DTaP). DAPTACEL has been approved for the first four consecutive doses of the recommended childhood immunization series against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis. Aventis will be pursuing licensure for a fifth dose. DAPTACEL is a thimerosal-free formulation that is

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highly effective in the prevention of pertussis disease, and the component technology found in DAPTACEL represents the company's next generation of acellular pertussis vaccines. For more information contact Aventis Pasteur at 1-800-822-2463.

Vaccine Trials 2002

Since 1993, the SAMHD has collaborated with local healthcare agencies and pharmaceutical companies to conduct clinical research studies. The goals of these studies are to improve and streamline the immunization schedule by reducing the number of injections children receive while maintaining a high level of protection from vaccine preventable diseases. There are two current vaccine trials taking place at SAMHD -- the Aventis Pasteur DAPTACELTM/PENTACELTM Study the GlaxoSmithKline PEDIARIXTM Study.

The Aventis Pasteur study is randomized analyzing two vaccines: DAPTACELTM a DTaP 5-component acellular pertussis formulation for the 5th dose, and PENTACELTM a pentavalent vaccine (DTaP, HIB, and IPV antigens). The objective of the study is to assess safety and immunogenicity of these vaccines. In addition, the study will monitor the efficacy in inducing the desired immune responses in children when given in combination with other recommended vaccines for the same age group. Study participants receive all of their childhood vaccinations including Prevnar® up to 16 months of age at no cost. The DAPTACELTM study consists of seven visits over a fifteen-month period.

The GlaxoSmithKline study is a combination vaccine study with PEDIARIXTM, which contains DTaP, Hepatitis B, and IPV antigens. Children enrolled in this study will also receive all other recommended vaccines including Prevnar[®] up to six months of age. This study

consists of three visits over a tenmonth period. Parents with children participating in either clinical trial will be compensated for their travel and parking expenses throughout the duration of the study.

The SAMHD is planning to participate in several other combination vaccine trials next year. Please read future issues of *Shot Talk* to keep abreast of up-coming clinical trials. To learn more about these vaccine studies or how to participate in future studies, please call Brenda Lemke at 207-6916 or Cynthia Harrelson at 207-3968.

"Pink Book" From CDC Is Available

The 7th edition of CDC's Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases, widely known as the Pink Book, is now available in both print for purchase and online free for downloading.

The *Pink Book* is an easy-to-read, quick reference work for clinics and other health care settings. It deserves a place on every immunization providers "reference bookshelf." Highlights of the 7th edition include a revised chapter on general vaccine recommendations, new chapters on smallpox and anthrax vaccines, and an appendix devoted to vaccine administration.

The cost of the *Pink Book* is \$25 plus shipping and handling. To order a copy, choose one of the following methods: call (877) 252-1200 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET; send a fax order with credit card or purchase order information to (301) 843-0159; or visit the Public Health Foundation (PHF) bookstore at: http://bookstore.phf.org/prod171.htm

To print a camera-ready copy of the entire *Pink Book* or selected chapters, go to CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/pink

Live Satellite Broadcast

On Thursday, June 27, the CDC presented a live satellite and web broadcast, "The Immunization Encounter: Critical Issues."

The broadcast program addressed best practices at each phase of the vaccination encounter, including intake and screening, vaccine administration, and documentation.

CDC Program faculty were William L. Atkinson, M.D., M.P.H.; Judy V. Schmidt, R.N., Ed.D.; and Donna L. Weaver, M.N., R.N; all from the National Immunization Program at CDC.

For future program schedules, details, registration, continuing education credit information, and satellite specifications, go to: http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtnonline. You may also obtain further information about upcoming broadcasts by calling (800) 418-7246.

If you were unable to watch the live broadcast and would like to order a videotape, go to the Public Health Training Network website at: http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/PHTN/de fault.asp

VFC Program Reminders

The SAMHD Vaccines for Children (VFC) staff would like to remind providers of a few items. The VFC Program has been supplying vaccine labels for over a vear to be used in the vaccine administration section on consent forms when using VFC vaccine. While manv providers have embraced the labels as a time saver some providers have been reluctant to use them. The VFC Program has invested public dollars and staff time into generating the labels and the use of these labels is now a program requirement. If your office is not using the vaccine labels provided with each vaccine shipment, now is the time to implement their use. In addition to saving you and your staff

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time, the labels also aid in keeping your inventory in the San Antonio Immunization Registry System (SAIRS) accurate. Use of the labels will become invaluable if a vaccine recall should be issued as each lot number is easily retrieved from SAIRS.

Providers are reminded to submit their monthly reports by the 8th of each month. These reports include a monthly VFC vaccine inventory, temperature log, and a waste report. VFC providers are also reminded that immunization consent forms are to be mailed **weekly** in the postage paid mailers provided.

Providers that do not submit reports and consent forms on time will receive a certified letter detailing the delinquent information and given 15 days to submit the requested materials. Providers are encouraged to correct the situation within the allotted 15 days or risk disruption of their vaccine shipments. Continued noncompliance will result in suspension from the VFC Program. Although this is a last resort action, any submission of outstanding reports or consent forms can restore a provider's VFC status. Remember. the VFC staff is available to assist any provider that is having problems with their reports or requirements of the VFC Program.

Providers are cautioned to avoid procrastination when dealing with VFC vaccine and program requirements. If you have questions regarding your status with the VFC Program you can contact Vivian Flores at 207-2868 or Jorge Reyes at 207-2862.

Annual Profile and Enrollment Updates

In addition to the requirements mentioned previously, all VFC providers are required to update their profiles and enrollments annually. The VFC Program has accomplished this in the

past by two staggered annual mailings.

To be more efficient in accomplishing this annual task, the VFC Program will mail VFC enrollment/profiles for updating in January 2003. Any provider whose enrollment/profile is 11 months old or older will be required to update these documents. Failure to do so will result in possible suspension of vaccine delivery. VFC staff will be available to assist in accomplishing this program requirement. Mark your calendar now!

If you have questions regarding your profile or enrollment contact Jorge Reyes at 207-2862.

Watch Your Fax Machine!

VFC Program has implemented a "blast fax" system to communicate important VFC and immunization related information to enrolled providers rapidly. This has been used to keep providers updated on vaccine shortages, to send out the recent vaccine survey, and other timely items. Providers are urged to check their Fax machines regularly and to call the contact number included for any questions you may have. If your fax number has changed please contact Jorge Reves at 207-2862.

QA/AFIX Updates

Since the last newsletter, the Quality Assurance Assessment Feedback Incentive and Exchange (Q/A AFIX) team has been focused on accomplishing a number of VFC site visits and/or records review. The team has visited the following sites:

Hill's Medical Clinic, Pediatric
Associates Clock Tower, Dr. Deleon,
Community Clinic Inc., Dr. Ruiz-Healy,
Laurel Heights Clinic, Dr. David Kost,
Dr. Hector X. Samaniego, Dr. Robert F.
Yerrington, First Steps Pediatrics,
Kellum Pediatrics, Dr. Thuy Danh Do,
Allied Institute of Medicine, Dr. Howard
H. Galarneau Jr., Community Family

Medicine, P.A., Juvenile Correctional Treatment Center, Alamo City Medical Group, Valley Clinic, Holy Cross, Health Texas Medical Group, Nusrat Medical Center, Alamo City Medical Group, Dr. Al-Shalchi, Somerset Family Clinic, Stone Oak Pediatric, Dr. Daniel Kellum, Z-Place Zion Family Center, Juarez Family Practice, City Chest Clinic, South Texas Center for Pediatric Care, Alamo City Medical Group, Kellum Medical Clinic- Adkins, Meridian Medical Group - Dr. Luna, Blessed Sacrament Academy, Northeast Pediatrics Associates, Little Texans Pediatrics, IH-10 DeZavala Rd. Clinic, Children First Pediatrics, Lanier Student Based Clinic, Dr. Rebecca A. Olivares, and Dr. Ernesto Varela

We would like to extend our congratulations to the following providers and their staff; First Steps Pediatrics and Kellum Pediatrics for achieving an immunization coverage rate between 80-81% for the 4:3:1:3:3 immunization series. This means that over 80% of the children seen by these practices completed their required immunizations of 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, and 3 Hep B by 24 months of age.

The QA/AFIX Program has also encouraged providers that have participated in the AFIX process to utilize the CDC's Clinical Assessment Software Application (CASA) to simplify keeping patient's immunization status up-todate. The software is free of charge and the QA/ AFIX staff will assist with training and installation. The following providers have recently requested and installed the CASA Program in their facilities: Laurel Heights Clinic and Somerset Family Clinic.

If you have any questions regarding the installation of the assessment software, training, or wish to schedule a site visit, please contact Maria Torres at 207-3972.

SAIRS 2002 and Beyond

The San Antonio Immunization Registry System (SAIRS) has experienced a banner year for software and hardware

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improvements. With the cooperation of Open System Group (OSG), SAIRS will continue to improve. SAHMD has entered into an agreement with OSG to implement a five-year system wide upgrade plan. This plan outlines goals and objectives, which address standard functions that have not been implemented into SAIRS.

OSG and the SAMHD Registry Program have installed new hardware and software that will monitor progress towards achieving the goals of this multi-phase plan. Later this year OSG and SAMHD Registry Program will participate in a detail survey report. This report will ask end-users their suggestions on improvements to SAIRS, and delve into registry planning, maintenance, further development, implementation, and evaluation. With the cooperation of the City of Antonio's Information San Department, Technology Texas Department of Health, and the CDC, SAIRS has undergone numerous upgrades that have greatly improved the effectiveness and capacity of SAIRS.

For more information on the SAMHD Registry Program contact Walter Widish at 207-8792.

Meningitis Education

If you are serving college age patients, remember to educate them about meningococcal disease and the availability of meningococcal vaccination (Aventis Pasteur). The ACIP, the American College Health Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics have recommend that college freshman planning to live in a dormitory be informed about the dangers of meningitis and the benefits of vaccination. Meningitis strikes about 3,000 Americans each year and claims about 300 lives. Between 100 and 125 meningitis cases occur on college campuses and as many as 15 students will die from the disease this year.

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Patients unable to obtain a meningococcal vaccination through your office can receive the vaccine at the following SAMHD clinics: the Downtown Immunization Clinic located at 345 W. Commerce and the Valley View Immunization Clinic located at 8523 Blanco Rd. (at West Ave.). The cost of the vaccine is \$80.00 at these SAMHD clinics.

Certain HEB Pharmacies are providing the meningococcal vaccine and your patients can call their local HEB Pharmacy for information about obtaining the vaccination.

Before sending your patients off to college, remember to also immunize them with hepatitis B, MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) varicella, hepatitis A, and Td if they are due for any of these immunizations.

If you would like additional information about meningitis, meningococcal vaccinations, or other adolescent/adult immunizations, please call Rita Salazar at 207-8877.

Gearing Up for Flu

season quickly approaching. If you have not ordered flu vaccine for your patients, you need to make arrangements now. Two vaccine manufacturers are still taking orders for flu vaccine. To order Evans Vaccines contact: Henry Schein at 1-800-772-4346, GIV at 1-800-521-7468, Caligor Divisions at 1-888-225-4467, or FFF Enterprises at 1-800-843-7477 by phone, online at www.fluvaccine.net or by fax at 1-800-418-4333. Wyeth is continuing to take orders for vaccine and can be contacted at 1-800-358-7443. Aventis-Pasteur has pre-booked all their flu vaccine and is no longer taking orders.

When determining the amount of flu vaccine to order for your patients, keep in mind the new ACIP Recommendations for the 2002-03 Influenza Season. This years recommendations call for immunizing high-risk individuals;

persons 65 years and older, persons 6 months of age and older with highrisk health conditions, health care workers, pregnant women in their 2nd or 3rd trimester, and healthy children between the ages of 6 to 23 months.

In accordance with the ACIP recommendations, and depending on vaccine arrival, the SAMHD plans to target early flu vaccination for highrisk groups in October and healthy persons in November. In addition to providing flu vaccinations at all SAMHD Immunization Clinics, outreach clinics will be held throughout the community at local senior centers, churches, community centers, and businesses.

If you would like additional information regarding the 2002-03 influenza season, contact Rita Salazar at (210) 207-8877.

Immunization Resources?

There are many immunization resources available to parents and health care providers regarding immunizations. Here is a list to help you find immunization information and references. Many offer a wealth of immunization material and information that can be downloaded at no cost:

All Kids Count - www.allkidscount.org Allied Vaccine Group -www.vaccine.org American Academy of Family Physicians - http://familydoctor.org American Academy of Pediatrics www.aap.org American Medical Association www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub American Nurses Association www.ana.org CDC -- www.cdc.gov Every Child by Two - www.ecbt.org Immunization Action Coalition www.immunize.org Infectious Disease Society of America www.idsocietv.org Institute of Medicine- www.iom.edu Institute for Vaccine Safety www.vaccinesafety.edu National Network for Immunization Information - www.immunizationinfo.org National Partnership for Immunization www.partnersforimmunization.org Rotary International -www.rotary.org Sabin Vaccine Institue -www.sabin.org

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San Antonio Metropolitan Health District www. samhd.org Texas Department of Health -

www.tdh.state.tx.us or 1-800-252-9152

Fluoride Coming Soon

San Antonio
Water System
(SAWS) and BexarMet have launched a fluoride information campaign. The campaign message is "The wait is almost over. Fluoride is coming to a faucet near you in August."

SAWS and BexarMet have worked very closely in developing the fluoride system. SAWS also worked with the Texas Department of Health to ensure the system meets all safety and security standards. "Multiple layers of safety are built into the system. The fluoride tanks will be inspected every day," SAWS Board Chairman James Mayor said. The construction of the fluoride delivery system will be completed by the end of June and final testing will start in July.

San Antonio citizens voted in November 2000 to put fluoride in the drinking water system.

Source: San Antonio Water System (6/24/02)

Ammunization Program Contacte

Program Operations: Mark Ritter, MHA	207-8794
Public Health Advisor: Thomas Finke, MPA	207-2870
Clinical Operations: Lynn Seeman, RN	207-8804
Hepatitis Program/Surveillance/Rabie Nancy Walea, RN	es: 207-2087
VFC Coordinator: Vivian Flores	207-2868
Vaccine Ordering: Anthony Johnson	921-1178
Infant Action Plan/WIC Linkage: Pamela Williams	207-2869
Vaccine Studies: Brenda Lemke, MHA	207-2859
Registry/Info. Systems: Walter Widish	207-8792
Adolescent/Adult Program: Rita Salazar	207-8877
AFIX/QA Program: Maria Torres	207-3972
Foreign Travel: Rebecca Prieto, RN	207-8872